

Up to 81 Day Extension of Period of Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE) Available to Some Family Members

As a result of the recent 2017 Federal Civilian Hiring Freeze, certain family members pursuing federal employment may be eligible for a limited NCE extension of up to 81 days.

Family members who have worked overseas under a family member appointment and have earned NCE have three years upon re-establishing residency in the U.S. to be appointed non-competitively into the federal government. However, the Code of Federal Regulations 315.608 allows federal agencies to extend an EFM's NCE beyond three years for periods in which, "There were no significant opportunities for federal employment." The Department of State has determined that an EFM's NCE period can be extended by an amount equal to the length of the federal government hiring freeze which occurred during their period of eligibility, i.e., while they were residing in the U.S. after their return from overseas. The federal hiring freeze began on January 22, 2017, and ended on April 12, 2017--a total of 81 days. Family members who believe that this extension period applies to their situation should contact **FLOAskEmployment@state.gov** for more information.

While the hiring freeze continues at the Department of State, numerous federal agencies have resumed hiring and their openings are available via [USAJOBS.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov). Learn more on [FLO's NCE webpage for family members and hiring managers](#). FLO posts vacancies for hiring managers on [The Network](#); to subscribe for this email subscription service, email **FLONetwork@state.gov**.